# Norman C. Roberts (1920–2009)

## Origin and Family

Born September 26, 1920. Died April 23, 2009, age 88

**Father:** William Edwin Roberts (1885–1967)
**Mother:** Cora Mildred Cleator Roberts (1890–1971)
**Spouse**: First, Evelyn "Pinky" Cavenee (1948); Second, Angelina Lopez Mateos for 11 years; Third, Sandy Hanna (2005)

**Children:** (by Pinky Roberts)[1]

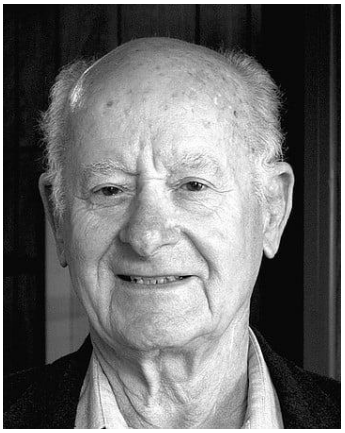
- Blaine Roberts
- Clint Roberts
- Laurie Roberts
- Victor Roberts

Norman C. Roberts attended Hoover High School in San Diego, California and graduated from the University of California, Davis College of Veterinary Science in 1941. He earned his doctorate of veterinary medicine from Colorado State University in 1944.

He served as a Captain in the United States Army during World War II.

## Occupation

Roberts began his career as a veterinarian before becoming a successful stockbroker, founding the Roberts and Scott Company. He was also an environmentalist and naturalist with a particular focus on Baja California, where he conducted extensive field studies. He authored the *Baja California Plant Field Guide.* The plant species *Grusonia robertsii* (club cholla) was named in his honor.



His international work included service as deputy director of the International Whaling Commission, member of the United States Panama Commission for the Environment, and trustee of the Center for Marine Conservation and the Environmental Defense Fund.

He was also active in civic and political life, serving as president of the San Diego Taxpayers Association in the 1970s and as co-chairman of the county committee supporting Ronald Reagan for president in 1976 and 1980. In 1981, he served as acting director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

His community service included roles as trustee of the San Diego Museum of Man, chairman of the Wild Animal Park Development Committee, president of the San Diego Rotary Club, president of the La Jolla Wine & Food Society, and chairman of the Latin American Committee for the San Diego Museum of Art. He was also a trustee of both the San Elijo Lagoon Foundation and the Santa Margarita River Foundation, a vice chairman of the Salvation Army, and chairman of Ducks Unlimited.

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## End of Life

Norman C. Roberts passed away on April 23, 2009. He was 88.

## Research Notes

**Online Genealogy References**:
WikiTree ID: Roberts-64704
FamilySearch ID: GJQS-DZB

**Further Reading:**

- Roberts, Norman C. *Baja California Plant Field Guide.* San Diego, CA: Natural History Publishing Company, 1989

## References

1. “Norman Roberts: Baja Was Lifelong Love of Plant, Animal Expert.” San Diego Union-Tribune, May 3, 2009 Obituary.

2. Max Brian Yale Genealogical Collection. Personal files.

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